

**STATE OF FLORIDA
FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Order No. EO 19-52

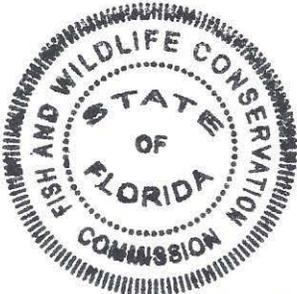
**Waiver of the January 2020 St. Johns River
System Blue Crab Trap Closure**

The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission of the State of Florida, acting under the authority of Article IV, Section 9, of the Florida Constitution, and acting through its Executive Director under Paragraph 22 of the Delegations of Authority, and due to reports of a lack of derelict traps in the St. Johns River system, hereby waives the upcoming blue crab trap closure that was scheduled to occur from January 16, 2020 through January 25, 2020. This action is taken based on a determination that a blue crab trap closure is not necessary in this region in 2020, and to avoid potential economic impacts on fishing communities associated with such a closure. Such actions are only authorized as follows:

1. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in 68B-45.0045(1), Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), the blue crab trap closure established in subparagraph 68B-45.0045(1)(a)1., F.A.C., for all waters of the St. Johns River, its associated lakes and tributaries from west of the St. Johns River's intersection with the Intracoastal Canal through and including Lake Hellen Blazes shall be waived for the 2020 calendar year.
2. All other rules or orders of the Commission relating to blue crab shall remain in effect.
3. This order shall expire at 12:00 a.m. on January 26, 2020.

Specific Authority:
Law Implemented:

Article IV, Section 9, Florida Constitution
Article IV, Section 9, Florida Constitution and subsection 120.81(5),
Florida Statutes



Attest
Agency Clerk

Michelle Turk

Given under my hand and seal of the Florida
Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
on this 23rd day of December, 2019.

Eric Sutton
Eric Sutton
Executive Director

Julia Natalia

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency